



**COMBINED TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF TO THE BOARD OF PATENT  
APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES & PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) (Large Entity)**

Docket No.  
**C-550/TEC1296**

In Re Application Of:

**Zer Kai Yap et al**

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/675,313	September 30, 2003	Ryan P. Gillan	0832	3746	5336

Invention: **TERMINAL BLOCK ASSEMBLY FOR A HERMETIC COMPRESSOR**

**TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:**

This combined Transmittal of Appeal Brief to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences and petition for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is respectfully submitted by the undersigned:

  
Signature

Dated: **October 31, 2007**

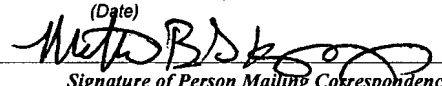
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Application Serial No. 10/675,313  
Appeal Brief dated October 31, 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appl. No.	:	10/675,313	Confirmation No. 5336
Filed	:	September 30, 2003	
Title	:	TERMINAL BLOCK ASSEMBLY	
	:	FOR A HERMETIC COMPRESSOR	
Applicant	:	Zer Kai Yap et al	
TC/A.U.	:	3746	
Examiner	:	Ryan P. Gillan	
Atty. Docket No.	:	C-550/TEC1296	
Customer No.	:	0832	

APPEAL BRIEF

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF-PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Appeal is taken from the Examiner's decision dated May 3, 2007, in the above-identified patent application, rejecting Claims 3-18, 20, 21, and 23-28, by way of Notice of Appeal filed on July 31, 2007, and accompanied by the Appeal Brief fee. Submitted in conjunction with the present Appeal Brief is payment for a one-month extension of time.

In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby petition therefor and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 02-0385, Baker & Daniels.

11/05/2007 HVUONG1 00000022 10675313

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**I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST**

The real party in interest is Tecumseh Products Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Michigan, having its principal place of business at 100 East Patterson Street, Tecumseh, Michigan 49286, and the assignee of the present application by virtue of an assignment from the inventor recorded on September 30, 2003, at Reel 014564, Frame 0819.

**II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

Neither the Appellants, the Appellants' representatives, nor the assignee know of any other appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which are related to, will directly affect, or be directly affected by, or have a bearing on, the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

**III. STATUS OF CLAIMS**

Pending: Claims 3-18, 20, 21, and 23-28  
Cancelled: Claims 1, 2, 19, and 22  
Withdrawn: None  
Allowed; None  
Objected to: None  
Rejected: Claims 3-18, 20, 21, and 23-28  
On Appeal: Claims 3-18, 20, 21, and 23-28

Claims 3, 5-12, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 27, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,584,716 to Bergman ("Bergman '716") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,252,036 to Bunch et al ("Bunch '036").

Claims 4 and 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036 in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,227,587 to Paterek ("Paterek '587").

Claims 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036 in further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0029469 to Bunch et al ("Bunch '469").

These rejections are appealed.

#### **IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS**

Claims 3-18, 20, 21, and 23-28 have not been amended since the Office Action dated May 3, 2007. The Notice of Appeal was filed on July 31, 2007. Claims 3-18, 20, 21, and 23-28 are set forth in the Claims Appendix.

#### **V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER**

The present invention provides a hermetic compressor assembly that includes a terminal body that may be easily mounted on and hermetically sealed with a compressor housing without requiring the terminal body and an aperture in the housing to be manufactured using tight tolerances. ¶ [0011]. With reference to Figs. 20-27, one embodiment of a terminal block is shown as terminal block 160. Terminal block 160 is a solid, metallic cylindrical block having mating end 163 and distal or projecting end 165. Referring to Figs. 21 and 24, terminal block 160 also includes three equally-spaced, tapped and threaded holes 172 extending therethrough. ¶ [0066]. Holes 172 receive terminal pin assemblies 180. ¶ [0066]

Referring to Figs. 22, 23, and 25, mating end 163 of terminal block 160 has a concave mating surface 164 having a radius of curvature that corresponds to the curvature of exterior surface 161 of housing wall 162, such that mating surface 164 of terminal block 160 lies flush against housing wall 162. Housing wall 162 has an exterior surface 161 facing outwardly and an interior surface 159 that faces the hermetically sealed interior space 193 defined by the housing and containing a motor/compressor subassembly 21. ¶ [0067]. The entirety of mating surface 164 need not be shaped to conform to the housing. Instead, mating surface 164 may be formed such that only an outer perimeter portion of mating surface 164 is shaped to conform to the housing and contacts exterior surface 161 of housing wall 162 to

sealingly encircle aperture 64. ¶ [0067]. Additionally, terminal block 160 may be mounted on the exterior surface of housing wall 162 such that terminal block 160 is disposed entirely outside of exterior surface 161 of housing wall 162, as shown in Fig. 23. ¶ [0068]. Terminal block 160 is hermetically sealed to exterior surface 161 of housing wall 162 by welding, brazing or the like around the perimeter of mating end 163. ¶ [0068].

As shown in Fig. 25, terminal block 160 may also include annular groove 166, which is defined in perimetrical surface 167 of terminal block 160 and extends about the perimeter or circumference of terminal block 160. Annular groove 166 receives a snap-fit protective cover, such as cover 190 illustrated in FIGS. 20, 21, 26 and 27. ¶ [0069]. Cylindrical cover 190 may include six, equally spaced-apart, resilient mounting members or legs 192. Each leg 192 includes a radially inwardly projecting tab or lip 194 that is shaped and sized to fit within annular groove 166. ¶ [0070]. To install cover 190 on terminal block 160, resilient legs 192 are urged along a tapered guide surface, causing resilient legs 192 to flex outward. When lip 194 reaches groove 166, resilient legs 192 spring inwards, snapping lip 194 into groove 166, thereby locking cover 190 onto terminal block 160. ¶ [0070].

The hermetic compressor assembly of Claim 3 requires, as exemplified in Figs. 1, 2, 18, and 21-25, a hermetically sealed housing 22 defining an interior space 193 and including a housing wall 62, 162 with an interior surface 159 and a cylindrical exterior surface 161. ¶¶ [0050], [0067]. The housing wall 62, 162 defining an aperture 64 extending through the housing wall and communicating with the interior space. ¶ [0067]. A motor 30 and a compression mechanism 40 operably coupled to the motor disposed within the interior space. ¶ [0050]. A terminal block 160 mounted on the housing wall proximate the aperture, the terminal block having a concave mating surface 164 flushingly engaged with the cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall and forming a hermetic seal with the cylindrical exterior surface, the concave mating surface encircling the aperture. ¶¶ [0066], [0067]. A terminal pin 82 mounted in the terminal block and extending through the aperture. ¶¶ [0061], [0066].

Additionally, as exemplified in Figs. 1, 2, 16, and 20-23, the hermetic compressor assembly of Claim 13 calls for a hermetically sealed housing 22 defining an interior space 193 and including a housing wall 62, 162 with an interior surface 159 and an exterior surface 161, the housing wall defining an aperture 64 extending through the wall and in communication with the interior space. ¶¶ [0050], [0067]. A motor 30 and a compressor mechanism 40 operatively coupled with the motor disposed within the interior space. ¶¶

[0050], [0067]. A terminal block 160 mounted on the housing covering the aperture and forming a hermetic seal with the housing wall, the terminal block defining an annular groove 166. ¶¶ [0066], [0069]. At least one terminal pin 82 extending through the terminal block having an end 94 projecting outwardly from the terminal block. ¶¶ [0061], [0065]. A cover 190 having a plurality of radially inwardly projecting tabs 194 engageable with groove 166 to thereby mount the cover to the terminal block with the cover substantially enclosing the outwardly projecting end of the at least one terminal pin. ¶¶ [0070], [0071].

As exemplified in Figs. 1, 2, 16, 18, and 23, the hermetic compressor assembly of Claim 17 calls for a hermetically sealed housing 22 defining an interior space 193 and including a housing wall 62, 162 having an interior surface 159 and an exterior surface 161. ¶¶ [0050], [0067]. The housing wall defining an aperture 64 in communication with the interior space. ¶ [0067]. A motor 30 and a compression mechanism 40 operatively connected with the motor disposed within the interior space. ¶¶ [0050], [0067]. A terminal block 160 positioned over the aperture, wherein substantially no portion of the terminal block extends into the aperture or engages the sidewall forming the aperture. ¶¶ [0067], [0068]. The terminal block 160 welded to exterior surface 161 of the housing at a location spaced radially outwardly of the aperture. ¶ [0068]. At least one terminal pin 82 mounted in the terminal block and extending through the aperture. ¶¶ [0061], [0065].

As exemplified in Figs. 1, 2, 16, 18, 20-23, the method of assembling a hermetic compressor called for in independent Claim 27 includes the steps of providing a housing 22 having a housing wall 62, 162 with an interior surface 159 and a cylindrical exterior surface 161. ¶¶ [0050], [0067]. Forming an aperture 64 in the housing wall. ¶¶ [0050], [0067]. Installing at least one terminal pin 82 in a terminal block 160. ¶¶ [0061], [0066]. Forming a concave mating surface 164 on the terminal block wherein the mating surface is flushingly engaged with the cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall. ¶¶ [0067], [0068]. Mounting the terminal block on the housing wherein the terminal block covers the aperture. ¶¶ [0067], [0068]. Forming a hermetic seal between the terminal block and the exterior surface of the housing wall wherein the hermetic seal circumscribes the aperture. ¶ [0068].



**VI. GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL**

- A. Independent Claim 3, and Claims 5-12 which depend therefrom, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036.
- B. Independent Claim 13, and Claims 14-16 which depend therefrom, are rejected as being obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '469.
- C. Independent Claim 17, and Claims 18, 20, and 21 which depend therefrom, stand rejected as being obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036.
- D. Independent Claim 27, and Claims 23 and 28 which depend therefrom, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036.

**VII. ARGUMENT**

- A. Independent Claim 3, and Claims 5-12 depending therefrom, are not obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036.**

Independent Claim 3 calls for a hermetic compressor assembly including, *inter alia*, a hermetically sealed housing including a housing wall with an interior surface and a cylindrical exterior surface, the housing wall defining an aperture extending through the housing wall, and a terminal block mounting on the housing proximate the aperture, *the terminal block having a concave mating surface flushly engaged with the cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall* and forming a hermetic seal with the cylindrical exterior surface, the concave mating surface encircling the aperture.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 3 is not rendered obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036. In forming the rejection, the Examiner states that Bergman '716 discloses:

[A] hermetically sealed housing (12) defining an interior space and including a housing wall with an interior surface and an exterior surface, said housing wall defining an aperture (clearly seen in figure 14) . . . a terminal block (270) mounted on said housing wall proximate said aperture and forming a hermetic seal with said exterior surface of said housing wall. . . ; wherein

said exterior surface is cylindrical and said mating surface is a concave surface (the weld, shown in figure 14 conforms to the exterior surface of the housing and will form at least some degree of concavity).

Office Action dated May 3, 2007, pages 2-3 at ¶ 1.

At the paragraph numbered 2, the Examiner then indicates the contrary. Specifically, the Examiner states, "Bergman ['716] teaches all of the claim limitations cited above *but fails to teach the following claim limitations taught by Bunch ['036]:* a terminal block (22) having a concave mating surface 30 flushly engaged 32 with the cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall 10. Office Action dated May 3, 2007, page 3 at ¶ 2 (emphasis added).

Taking the Examiner's statements in turn, Bergman '716 fails to disclose a terminal block having a *concave mating surface flushly engaged with a cylindrical exterior surface* of a housing wall as called for in independent Claim 3. As set forth above, the Examiner contends that terminal block 260, shown in Fig. 14 of Bergman '716, includes a mating surface 268 engaged with the exterior surface of housing 12 and that welds, denoted as Xs, form a concave mating surface. However, in every embodiment of housing 12 disclosed and depicted in Bergman '716, housing 12 includes flattened section 270 configured for mating with the flattened periphery of the terminal bodies of Bergman '716. Nowhere does Bergman '716 disclose a terminal block having a concave mating surface flushingly engaged with a cylindrical exterior surface of a housing wall.

The Examiner's further citation of Bunch '036 fails to overcome this deficiency as neither Bergman '716 nor Bunch '036, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest a terminal block having a concave mating surface flushingly engaged with a cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall. Specifically, referring to Bunch '036, Bunch '036 discloses that terminal cluster 14 preferably "comprises a cylindrical cup 22 welded to housing 10, with cup 22 containing a plurality of pins 24 extending out of the housing 10." Bunch '036, column 3, lines 61-64. Additionally, Bunch '036 further discloses terminal cluster 14 "is of known design and is similar to that described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,406,590, which is expressly incorporated by reference herein." Bunch '036, column 3, lines 59-61. Thus, the disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 4,406,590 to Kessler ("Kessler '590") forms a part of

the specification of Bunch '036. Referring to Kessler '590, the terminal cluster disclosed is a cup-shaped terminal cluster of the same general design as the terminal cluster of Bunch '036 and has a portion extending through an aperture formed in a housing of a compressor. Nowhere does Kessler '590 indicate that the terminal cluster engages a cylindrical exterior surface of a housing wall.

Further, referring to Fig. 2 of Bunch '036, any depiction of terminal cluster 14 is precluded by heater 12, which is labeled in Fig. 2 and extends throughout the entirety of the space defined between housing 10 and gasket 42. Additionally, while Bunch '036 discloses that the surface over which *heater 12 is located* is either generally planar or slightly curved, the section view depicted in Fig. 2 does not disclose the relationship between terminal cluster 14 and housing 10 where terminal cluster 14 extends through the housing, presumably because of where the section is taken. Thus, any depiction of terminal cluster 14, other than the depictions provided by Kessler '590 and forming a part of the specification of Bunch '036, is precluded.

The Examiner contends that "it is unclear in what way heater 12 precludes terminal cluster 14." Office Action dated May 3, 2007, page 6 at ¶ 8. The Examiner then continues, "As clearly seen in figure 2 all of the components of the terminal block are outside of the housing." *Id.* However, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, the only components of the terminal cluster 14 that are visible in Fig. 2 are terminal pins 24. Absent from Fig. 2 is cylindrical cup 22 of terminal cluster 14 in which pins 24 are mounted. Bunch '036, col. 3, lines 61-64. Thus, there is no way to determine from Fig. 2 how terminal cluster 14 is mounted to housing 10. In fact, the only method of attachment that is disclosed is contained in Kessler '590 and it fails to disclose a terminal block having a concave mating surface *flushly engaged* with the *cylindrical* exterior surface of the housing wall and forming a hermetic seal with the *cylindrical* exterior surface. To the contrary, Kessler '590 shows the terminal block extending *through* the housing.

Because the combination of Berman '716 and Bunch '036 does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations of independent Claim 3, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 3, and Claims 5-12 which depend therefrom, as well as dependent Claim 4 that will stand or fall with independent Claim 3, are not rendered obvious by the combination of these references. In fact, the references teach away from the structure as described above.

**B. Independent Claim 13, and Claims 14-16 which depend therefrom, are not obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '469.**

Independent Claim 13 calls for a hermetic compressor assembly including, *inter alia*, a hermetically sealed housing defining an interior space and including a housing wall, the housing wall defining an aperture extending through the wall and in communication with the interior space, a terminal block mounted on the housing covering the aperture and forming a hermetic seal with the housing wall, the terminal block defining an annular groove, a cover having a plurality of radially inwardly projecting tabs engageable with the groove to thereby mount the cover to the terminal block with the cover substantially enclosing the outwardly projecting end of at least one terminal pin. In forming the rejection, the Examiner relies on Bergman '716 as teaching all of the claim limitations except a cover having a plurality of tabs engageable with a groove to thereby mount a cover to a terminal block. Thus, the Examiner relies on the disclosure of Bunch '469 for providing this limitation.

Referring to Bunch '469, Bunch '469 discloses terminal assembly 50, shown in Fig. 3, including a plurality of conducting pins 56 extending therethrough. Configured for attachment to terminal assembly 50 is connector assembly 54. Referring to Figs. 5 and 6, terminal assembly 54 includes cover 80 having a plurality of slots 88 formed therein and base 78 having a plurality of tabs 82 extending therefrom. Tabs 82 of base 78 engage slots 88 of cover 80 to secure the two components together. Additionally, positioned within groove 114 of base 78 is O-ring 118. Referring to Fig. 3, O-ring 118 engages the interior of terminal assembly 50 to frictionally secure connector assembly 54 to terminal assembly 50.

In contrast to amended independent Claim 13, Bunch '469 discloses slots 88 and tabs 82 to form a connection, not between a cover and terminal block as required by independent Claim 13, but between two independent components of a separate connector assembly 54. Thus, the engagement between connector assembly 54 and terminal assembly 50 is provided by a friction fit of O-ring 118 within terminal assembly 50. In fact, the Examiner agrees that the engagement between the cover and terminal block taught by Bunch '469 is made by an O-ring. See Office Action dated May 3, 2007, p. 6 at ¶ 9. The Examiner then argues that the grooves and tabs taught by Bunch '469 also provide engagement between "the two pieces." While the grooves and tabs of Bunch '469 provides an engagement between "two pieces", the grooves and tabs taught by Bunch '469 do not provide engagement between *a terminal block and a cover*, as called for in independent Claim 13.

Furthermore, a person of ordinary skill in the art would not combine the design of the connector assembly of Bunch '469 with the terminal assembly of Bergman '716. Specifically, Bergman '716 already discloses several different cover designs, such as plugs 202, 222, 242, 262, 302, 322, shown in Figs. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16, respectively. These plugs are designed to mate with the terminal assembly and create a seal necessary for electrical components. Bergman '716, col. 8, lines 36-38. Absent a problem with the design of the plugs of Bergman '716, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have no motivation to modify the same.

Additionally, a person of ordinary skill in the art would not identify the mechanism used to assembly two pieces of the connector assembly of the device of Bunch '469 as being analogous to the plugs of Bergman '716. If any component of the device of Bunch '469 would be recognized by a person of ordinary skill in the art as a substitute for the plugs of Bergman '716, it would be O-ring 118 of Bunch '046. In fact, as indicated above, even the Examiner agrees that the connection between the cover and terminal assembly in Bunch '046 is formed by O-ring 118. *See* Office Action dated May 3, 2007, p. 6 at ¶ 9. Thus, a person of ordinary skill in the art would not combine the design of the connector assembly of Bunch '469 with non-analogous terminal assembly of Bergman '716.

Because the combination of Berman '716 and Bunch '469 does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations of independent Claim 13, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 13, and Claims 14-16 which depend therefrom, are not rendered obvious by the combination of these references.

**C. Independent Claim 17, and Claims 18, 20, and 21, depending therefrom, are not obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036.**

Independent Claim 17 calls for a hermetic compressor assembly including, *inter alia*, a hermetically sealed housing defining an interior space and including a housing wall, the housing wall defining an aperture in communication with the interior space, a terminal block positioned over the aperture wherein substantially no portion of the terminal block extends into the aperture or engages the sidewall forming the aperture.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 17 is not rendered obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036. In forming the rejection, the Examiner indicates that Bergman '716 fails to teach a terminal block having a concave mating surface flushingly

engaged with the cylindrical surface of a housing wall. *See* Office Action dated May 3, 2007, page 4 at ¶ 2. Thus, the Examiner relies on the teachings of Bunch '036 for disclosing a terminal block positioned over an aperture, wherein substantially no portion of the terminal block extends into the aperture or engages the sidewall forming the aperture.

As discussed above with respect to independent Claim 3, Bunch '036 fails to disclose the position of terminal cluster 14 within housing 10. Specifically, the only disclosure of Bunch '036 relevant to the securement of terminal cluster 14 to housing 10 is that terminal cluster 14 comprises a cylindrical cup 22 welded to housing 10. *See* Bunch '036, column 3, lines 61-64. As set forth above, terminal cluster 14 is disclosed in Bunch '036 to be of a known design that is similar to the design described in Kessler '590. Referring again to Kessler '590, a cup-shaped terminal assembly is disclosed which contacts the inner surface of an aperture formed in a compressor housing. Further, referring to Fig. 2 of Bunch '036, the view of terminal cluster 14 is clearly obstructed by heater 12. Thus, there is no indication in Bunch '036 or Kessler '590, which forms a portion of the specification of Bunch '036, that cup 22 of terminal cluster 14 is positioned over the aperture in the housing wall or that substantially no portion of the terminal cluster extends into the aperture or engages the sidewall forming the aperture.

Because the combination of Bergman '716 and Bunch '036 does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations of independent Claim 17, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 17, and Claims 18, 20, and 21 which depend therefrom, are not rendered obvious by the combination of these references.

**D. Independent Claim 27, and Claims 23 and 28, depending therefrom, are not obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036.**

Independent Claim 27 calls for a method of assembling a hermetic compressor including, *inter alia*, providing a housing having a housing wall with an interior surface and a cylindrical exterior surface, forming an aperture in the housing wall, installing at least one terminal pin in a terminal block, forming a concave mating surface on the terminal block wherein the mating surface is flushly engageable with the cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 27 is not rendered obvious over Bergman '716 in view of Bunch '036. In forming the rejection, the Examiner indicated

that the method of assembly claims are rejected because they simply provide the apparatus discussed in detail above. Office Action dated May 3, 2007, page 4 at ¶ 2. However, as set forth with respect to independent Claim 3, Bergman '716 either alone or in combination with Bunch '036 fails to disclose forming a concave mating surface on a terminal block wherein the mating surface is flushly engaged with the cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall. The Examiner correctly indicates that Bergman '716 fails to disclose this limitation and relies on Bunch '036 for the relevant disclosure. However, for at least the reasons set forth above, Bunch '036 fails to disclose or suggest this limitation. Specifically, the terminal cluster 14 referred to in Bunch '036 is a cylindrical cup 22 welded to housing 10. Nowhere does Bunch '036 disclose that cup 22 includes a concave mating surface. Additionally, as set forth above, Kessler '590, which forms a portion of the specification of Bunch '036, further fails to disclose a concave mating surface on a terminal assembly.

Because the combination of Bergman '716 and Bunch '036 does not disclose or suggest the limitations of independent Claim 27, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 27, and Claims 23 and 28 which depend therefrom, as well as dependent Claims 24-26 that will stand or fall with independent Claim 27, are not rendered obvious by the combination of these references.

**VIII. CONCLUSION**

Appellant respectfully requests reversal of the Examiner's rejection, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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MATTHEW B. SKAGGS, REG. NO. 55,814

Name of Registered Representative



Signature

October 31, 2007

Date



**IX. CLAIMS APPENDIX**

Claim 3 (previously presented): A hermetic compressor assembly, comprising:

a hermetically sealed housing defining an interior space and including a housing wall with an interior surface and a cylindrical exterior surface, said housing wall defining an aperture extending through said housing wall and communicating with said interior space;

a motor and a compressor mechanism operably coupled with said motor disposed within said interior space;

a terminal block mounted on said housing wall proximate said aperture, said terminal block having a concave mating surface flushly engaged with said cylindrical exterior surface of said housing wall and forming a hermetic seal with said cylindrical exterior surface, said concave mating surface encircling said aperture; and

at least one terminal pin mounted in said terminal block and extending through said aperture.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 3 wherein said at least one terminal pin comprises a terminal pin assembly threadingly engaging a threaded opening defined by said terminal block.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 3 wherein said at least one terminal pin has an outwardly projecting end and said assembly further comprises a cover securable to said terminal block wherein said cover defines an enclosure for said outwardly projecting end of said at least one terminal pin when said cover is secured to said terminal block and wherein said terminal block includes a latching surface securably engageable with said cover.

Claim 6 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 5 wherein said latching surface is defined by a groove formed in said terminal block.

Claim 7 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 5 wherein said cover includes at least one resilient mounting member engageable with said latching surface to secure said cover to said terminal block.

Claim 8 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 7 wherein said at least one mounting member includes a radially inwardly extending tab engageable with said latching surface.

Claim 9 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 7 wherein said terminal block includes a guide surface disposed between said latching surface and a distal end of said terminal block, said guide surface tapering radially inwardly as said guide surface projects from said latching surface toward said distal end.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 3 wherein said terminal block is disposed entirely outwardly of said exterior surface of said housing wall.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 3 wherein said terminal block includes a portion disposed within said aperture.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 3 wherein said terminal block is welded to said exterior surface of said housing wall.

Claim 13 (original): A hermetic compressor assembly, said assembly comprising:

- a hermetically sealed housing defining an interior space and including a housing wall with an interior surface and an exterior surface, said housing wall defining an aperture extending through the wall and in communication with said interior space;
- a motor and a compressor mechanism operably coupled with said motor disposed within said interior space;
- a terminal block mounted on said housing covering said aperture and forming a hermetic seal with said housing wall, said terminal block defining an annular groove;
- at least one terminal pin extending through said terminal block and having an end projecting outwardly from said terminal block; and
- a cover having a plurality of radially inwardly projecting tabs engageable with said groove to thereby mount said cover to said terminal block with said cover substantially enclosing said outwardly projecting end of said at least one terminal pin.

Claim 14 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 13 wherein said cover includes a plurality of resilient mounting members extending therefrom and said tabs are disposed on respective distal ends of said plurality of resilient mounting members.

Claim 15 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 13 wherein said terminal block includes a guide surface disposed between said annular groove and a distal end of said terminal block, said guide surface tapering radially inwardly as said guide surface projects from said latching surface to said distal end.

Claim 16 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 15 wherein said guide surface forms a frustroconical shape.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A hermetic compressor assembly, said assembly comprising:

- a hermetically sealed housing defining an interior space and including a housing wall having an interior surface and an exterior surface, said housing wall defining an aperture in communication with said interior space;

- a motor and a compressor mechanism operably coupled with said motor disposed within said interior space;

- a terminal block positioned over said aperture, wherein substantially no portion of said terminal block extends into said aperture or engages the sidewall forming said aperture, said terminal block welded to said exterior surface of said housing at a location spaced radially outwardly of said aperture; and

- at least one terminal pin mounted in said terminal block and extending through said aperture.

Claim 18 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 17 wherein said terminal block is disposed entirely outwardly of said exterior surface of said housing wall.

Claim 20 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 17 wherein said terminal block forms a hermetic seal with said exterior surface of housing wall, said hermetic seal encircling said aperture.

Claim 21 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 17 wherein said exterior surface of said housing wall has a cylindrical shape and said terminal block defines a concave surface flushly engageable with said exterior surface.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method of claim 27 wherein the steps of mounting the terminal block to the housing and forming the hermetic seal between the terminal block and the exterior surface of the housing wall both comprise welding the terminal block to the exterior surface of the housing wall.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method of claim 27 wherein the step of installing at least one terminal pin assembly in the terminal block includes threadingly engaging the at least one terminal pin assembly with the terminal block.

Claim 25 (original): The method of claim 24 wherein the step of installing at least one terminal pin assembly in the terminal block is performed prior to mounting the terminal block on the housing.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 24 wherein the step of installing at least one terminal pin assembly in the terminal block is performed after mounting the terminal block on the housing.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A method of assembling a hermetic compressor comprising:

- providing a housing having a housing wall with an interior surface and a cylindrical exterior surface;

- forming an aperture in the housing wall;

- installing at least one terminal pin in a terminal block;

forming a concave mating surface on the terminal block wherein the mating surface is flushly engageable with the cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall;

mounting the terminal block on the housing wherein the terminal block covers the aperture; and

forming a hermetic seal between the terminal block and the exterior surface of the housing wall wherein said hermetic seal circumscribes the aperture.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of forming a groove in the terminal block whereby a cover may be engaged with the groove to thereby secure the cover to the terminal block.

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**X. EVIDENCE APPENDIX**

None.

**XI. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX**

No proceedings which are related to, will directly affect or be directly affected by, or have a bearing on, the Board's decision in the pending appeal are known to the Appellants', the Appellants' representatives, or the assignee.